

## THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN

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NEWS ITEMS, NOTICES AND REPORTS MUST BE SENT TO THE OFFICE NOT LATER THAN THURSDAY EVENING OF EACH WEEK, IF THEY ARE TO APPEAR IN THE CURRENT NUMBER.

TRANSIENT NOTICES, FIFTY CENTS FOR EIGHT LINES, EACH INSERTION. FOR LARGER SPACE AND PERMANENT RATES, APPLY AS ABOVE.

## The Borough System.

By petition and through counsel the Township Committee has been asked to correct the injustice of laying taxes upon farming property for the lighting of streets, maintenance of water supplies, police, fire and other purposes.

Application to the Supreme Court upon the part of these petitioners has resulted in the affirmation of the present laws, with express declaration that the formation of districts, smaller in area than the whole township, for the purpose of such taxation is contrary to the constitution, good law, and common sense. In order to satisfy those who feel aggrieved—two remedies have been proposed. It has been suggested that they, either alone or with a portion of Montclair or Franklin form a new township. This plan has been rejected as too expensive. Either Upper Montclair or Franklin is too progressive for Brookdale, and as for living alone that would cost too much.

A second plan which has been proposed is the payment of the gas and water-tax (about \$700) by the taxpayers north of Bay avenue, with the understanding that it would be made good to them out of other appropriations, as those for roads, sidewalks, crosswalks, poor, etc. This plan is also rejected as involving a wrong principle; and a counter-plan is advocated—the organization of the densely-populated center upon the Borough System, in accordance with a law approved April 5th, 1878. The advantages and disadvantages of the system, we propose to examine.

Several things are involved in it; the election of a Mayor or six councilmen to serve without pay; the appointment of a Borough clerk; the holding of special Borough elections in October of each year, and the carrying on in addition of the ordinary township organization without friction or jar. To the Mayor or councilmen so organized power is given to make and repeal ordinances; to declare nuisances, and remove obstructions in sidewalks, street, road or lot; to prevent animals running at large; to prevent fast driving; to prevent riots and suppress gambling; to provide protection of property from fire; to license peddlers, billiard saloons and bowling alleys; to light the streets; to provide a lock-up and to provide for good order. For the Clerk there is a salary. The cost of holding extra elections and all other money expended must be paid from the amount voted for Borough purposes, which shall not exceed \$1,500. It is also provided that a Borough shall not exceed four square miles in extent, with a population of not over 5,000. It will easily be seen that this act was not intended to apply to so large a township as Bloomfield, and would not meet its requirements. South of Bay avenue there may be no more than four square miles of territory, but there is already much more than 5,000 inhabitants. For \$1,500, it would not be possible to meet the expenses of fire, police, lock-up, lighting and other matters mentioned. The extra elections would cause a useless expense, and the new set of officers would be superfluous. We have spoken only of the disadvantages—there are no advantages—except possibly that Brookdale will be relieved from the gas and water tax. No powers are given that are not now exercised by the present township officers; the adoption of the Borough System would be an absurdity.

The solution of the learned counsel for the petitioners is no solution, but merely a makeshift to cover a weak position, by throwing the burden of proof upon his neighbors. Real powers could be used by our town authorities with advantage, but they are not found in this act. Until something better is offered we shall be compelled to jog on in the old way.

A telegram from Washington announces that Mr. Joseph H. Reall, the President of the National Dairyman's Association,

will be a candidate for the Congressional nomination on the Democratic ticket this fall in Essex county, and the Newark papers are anxiously inquiring as to the residence of Mr. Reall. The gentleman resides in Bloomfield, and as he runs a dairy farm and is also a Democrat, we would advise the Prohibitionists to nominate him at once as their candidate.

## Street Improvements.

The Township Committee has awarded the contract for putting down the stone sidewalks this year at a cost of fifty-nine cents per running foot, a slight reduction from the price last year.

It will greatly add to the appearance of the streets and property, if those persons who have applied for stone walks will at the same time arrange with the contractor to put in curb stones on the street line.

The law allows a sidewalk to include one-fifth of the total width of the street and a curb serves to define both lines and makes it much easier to keep both in good repair.

If any one wishes to observe the effect of curbing they may go down Franklin street below the Baptist church where Mr. Stout has made his improvements, and then the importance of our suggestion will be appreciated.

The cost of curbing is very little if the work be done at present prices.

The Orange Water Company propose at an early day to lay the corner stone of their new building on Main street near Arlington avenue, East Orange. Their President, Mr. F. W. Shepard, has invited the Township Committee and an autograph list of our officers for the year 1886, and any other document which is like to prove of historic value a century hence, when the box within the stone shall be opened.

In view of the fact that the next century will doubtless witness the consolidation of the whole of Essex county into one large town in which all township lines will be obliterated and matters of local interest become of general importance, it is possible that some resident of Bloomfield may have some document which is worth preserving in this way.

The Prohibition party is as usual early in the political field and has nominated as their candidate for governor, General Clinton B. Fiske, lately of St. Louis and New York.

It seems a pity that no true blue Jerseyman could be found to run for this office, but we suppose General Fiske can do as much as any one to keep the State Democratic. General Fiske's record as a manipulator of railway securities has been somewhat unsavory in the past, but as he is not likely to be elected governor the temperance people should be allowed to condone that offence.

Defeat cannot hurt Fiske very much, and besides that he can return to St. Louis after election.

## County Notes.

ORANGE.  
About five o'clock Saturday afternoon two sneak thieves found an old trick successfully at the store of Pfister & Weber, Bart's Block, Main street. Mr. Weber was busy unloading a wagon on the sidewalk when a well-dressed young man came up and kept Mr. Pfister engaged for ten minutes, by pricing goods displayed in front of the store. When the cash drawer was opened some time after a bag containing about \$18 in silver and \$15 in bills had disappeared. Upon investigation it was learned that another well-dressed young man had entered the yard at the rear of the store from Essex street, and a few minutes after was seen to go out the same way and, apparently in a great hurry. The thieves made good their escape.

## EAST ORANGE.

The East Orange Township Committee held a regular meeting Monday evening. The most important business was the introduction of the new sewerage and drainage ordinance, authorizing densely populated townships, having a water supply, to introduce a system of sewerage. It ordained that the Township Committee accept the provisions of that act and empower the committee to employ engineers and mechanics to prepare plans and estimates for a sewerage system; to construct and maintain a system of sewerage with all necessary works and to purchase or condemn all the necessary lands; that no contract of any sort shall be valid unless receiving the approval, by vote, of a majority of the Township Committee; to keep the system in working order and to make any rules and regulations for the proper control of the system; the borrowing of \$250,000 to be secured by an issue of Sewerage Loan Bonds, to pay the cost of the system. The Township Clerk was instructed to prepare a roll of all members of the Ashland Hook and Ladder Truck who had served seven years and over, as they should be recognized as exempt firemen.

SOUTH ORANGE.  
An event of more than usual interest to the large colony of gypsies encamped on Grove street, near South Orange avenue, occurred Monday morning, it being the birth of a bright, healthy daughter of the Queen of the tribe. The event occurred in the large and handsomely appointed wagon which is the home of the King and Queen, the mother being attended by Dr. Clark, of East Orange, and Dr. Fulger, of Newark, both of whom were summoned during the excitement which existed in the camp. The gypsies all appear happy ever the event, and are looking forward to the christening which will be celebrated with great ceremony. This tribe appear to be a more than ordinarily prosperous one.

## Benedict's Time.

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The list of articles which we propose to place at the disposal of our 10,000 customers on

Saturday, June 19,

And following week is so very extensive and varied that we have not allowed ourselves the time necessary to make a complete and general specification of them. Suffice to say that in our next we will present to the people of Newark and vicinity a catalogue of presents such as will astonish and puzzle the most sanguine. During the interval all purchasers of TEA, COFFEE or BAKING POWDER will be presented with another of those beautiful pictures for which our company is so justly famous.

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